(3)

1905

Leg. FILE No. 150 OF 1904-05

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL AND REVENUE DEPARTMENT

LEGISLATIVE

MAY

A" Collection Serial Nos. 1—15

*Report on the working of the Game Regulation*

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| 1 | To the District Magistrates of Districts, the Inspector General of Police, and the Honorary Secretary, Game and Fish Preservation Association, No. 302-11—J., dated the 6th August 1904. Requests to be informed as to the effects the operation of the law has had on the preservation of the game in general, and as to whether any surreptitious shooting prevails in their districts either during the close seasons, or in prohibited areas or without obtaining proper licenses, etc., and states that an annual report on the working of the regulation should be submitted annually commencing with the official year 1903-04. | | 1 |
| 2 | From the District Magistrate of Shimoga, No. 134—J. 11, dated the 11th August 1904. States that no cases of surreptitious or indiscriminate shooting have been brought to his notice and that no hardship appears to have been caused by the licenses granted in one district being confined to that district. | | 1 |
| 3 | From the Honorary Secretary, Game and Fish Preservation Association, Saklespur, dated the 15th August 1904. States that many natives don't seem still to be aware of the provisions of the Game Regulation; that surreptitious shooting largely prevails, also fishing with undersized nets; that neither the close season, prohibited area nor the absence of a license deter poachers, who abound in large number the Hunbali hobli of the Manjarabad Taluk and Belur and kasba hoblis of the Mudgere Taluk: that netting of antelope, partridges and quail still goes on; that it is therefore necessary to appoint game watchers to prevent all these abuses; that all attempts at game preservation will be abortive if men are allowed to enter District and Reserve Forests under cover of a four anna license; that a certain amount of hardship is being felt owing to the restriction regarding the license issued in one district not being available in another, that this should be removed, but to make up for any decrease in fees, a considerably higher fee may be charged to non-residents of the State. | | 1 |


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| 4 | From the Inspector General of Police in Mysore, No. 1020—120, dated the 19th August 1904.<br>States that the fee for a license to shoot over the whole Province should be only double that of one for a single district and that there should be different licenses for small and big game, the fee for the former being fixed at Rs. 10 and the latter at Rs. 30. | | 2 |
| 5 | From the District Magistrate of Shimoga, No. 207—16, dated the 2nd September 1904.<br>Submits a report on the working of the Game Regulation in his district for 1903-04. | | 2 |
| 6 | From the District Magistrate, Tumkur, No. 150, dated the 31st August 1904.<br>States that the shooting classes seem to have become familiar with the provisions of the Regulation; that only two cases of surreptitious shooting have occurred in his district since the Regulation was introduced; that there is no reason to believe that any surreptitious shooting is prevalent in his district, and that it does not appear that any hardship is being felt by the restriction regarding a license issued in one district being confined to the same. | | 3 |
| 7 | From the District Magistrate of Hassan, No. 266, dated the 10th October 1904.<br>States that wide publicity has been given to the Regulation in his district; that neither surreptitious shooting nor indiscriminate destruction of game seems to have been indulged in; but that either the appointment of Government watchmen or increase in the establishment of the minor forest officials is, in his opinion, necessary to prevent abuse of game laws which often occur; and that no hardship seems to have been felt in his district owing to the restriction regarding the shooting license is sued in one district not being made available in another. | | |
| | From the District Magistrate, Hassan, No. 267, dated the 10th October 1904.<br>Submits a report on the working of the Game Regulation in his district for 1903-04. | | 5 |
| 9 | From the District Magistrate, Kolar, No. 2052, dated the 19th October 1904.<br>States that the provisions of the Game Regulation do not seem to have been understood by people in his district; that a certain amount of poaching is indulged in by native sportsmen generally of the lower classes; that netting, snaring and fishing against the rules are also freely indulged in; that the preservation of game can only be served by the executive officers of Police, Revenue and Forest Departments being made to pay more attention to this branch of their duty; that patels and forest guards should be held responsible for surreptitious shooting or breaches of the rules in their jurisdiction; that a wide publication of the rules regarding close season is, in his opinion, necessary; but that no hardship is experienced by the system of local and provincial licenses. | | 6 |
| 10 | From the District Magistrate, Kadur, No. 278, dated the 26th November 1904.<br>States that notwithstanding the publicity given to the Regulation and rules thereunder, there is reason to believe that a good deal of ignorance prevails amongst the villagers as to their provisions; that consequently some unlicensed shooting is carried on in the more remote parts of the malnad; that each patel may therefore be supplied with a copy of the rules and made responsible to report breaches of the same; and submits for consideration certain suggestions for the better working of the game laws. | | |
| 11 | From the District Magistrate, Mysore, No. 429, dated the 2nd December 1904.<br>Submits a report on the working of the Game Regulation for 1903-04 and observes that, in his opinion, it is necessary to provide some exemption in favor of certain classes of people who go hunting on certain important festive occasions. | | 11 |
| 12 | From the District Magistrate of Chitaldrug, No. 336, dated the 29th December 1904.<br>States that the Game Regulation and rules thereunder have had the desired effect in preserving game from indiscriminate destruction; that no surreptitious shooting seems to have been resorted to by any in his district and that no hardship seems to be felt by the restriction regarding a license issued in one district not being available in another. | | |

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| 13 | From the District Magistrate, Bangalore, No. 643, dated the 3rd February 1905.<br>States that the native shooting classes do not appear to be familiar with the provisions of the Regulation; that a certain amount of surreptitious shooting is carried on by persons holding licenses for guns for self-protection; and that no complaints have been received of any hardship arising from a license issued in one district not being available in another. | | 11 |
| 14 | To the Inspector General of Police, all District Magistrates, the Honorary Secretary, Game and Fish Preservation Association, Colonel Grant, Survey and Settlement Commissioner, the Conservator of Forests, Captain Traill, Government Proceedings No. J. 3328—40, dated 20th May 1905.<br>Reviews the above Reports on the working of the Game and Fish Preservation Regulation, II of 1901, and the Rules thereunder, and requests the District Magistrates, the Game and Fish Preservation Association, Colonel Grant and Captain Traill to favor Government with their views on the suggestion of Mr. Carr regarding the issue of two forms of licenses, one for small game such as snipe, duck, hares, etc., and another for big game, such as bison, sambhur, etc., the fee for the former being fixed at, say, Rs. 10 and for the latter at Rs. 30, for the whole State. | | 11 |
| 15 | To the Compiler, *Mysore Gazette*, No. 3341—J., dated 20th May 1905.<br>Notifies the addition of clause (*c*) to Rule 10 of the Game Rules. | | 13 |

1904-05.

# GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

## LEGISLATION FOR MAY.

### NOTES.

File No. 15 of 1904-05.

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

*From the District Magistrate of Shimoga, No. 134-J.—11, dated 11th August 1904.*

States that no cases of surreptitious or indiscriminate shooting have been brought to his notice and that no hardship appears to have been caused by the licenses granted in one District being confined to that District.

*From the Honorary Secretary, Game and Fish Preservation Association, dated the 15th August 1904.*

States that many natives do not seem still to be aware of the provisions of the Game Regulation: that surreptitious shooting largely prevails, also fishing with undersized nets; that neither the close season, prohibited area nor the absence of license deter poachres who abound in large numbers the Hanbali hobli of Manjarabad and Belur and Kasba Hoblis of the Mudgere Taluks: that netting of antelope, partridges and quail still goes on: that it is therefor necessary to appoint game watchers to prevent all these abuses: that all attempts at Game preservation will be abortive if men are allowed to enter District and Reserve Forest under cover of a four annas license: that a certain amount of hardship is being felt owing to the resrtriction regarding the license issued in one District being confined to the same; that this should be removed and to make up for any decrease in fees, a considerably higher fee say Rs. 25 or 50 may be charged to non-residents of the State.

*From the Inspector General of Police in Mysore, No. 1020—139, dated the 19th August 1904.*

States that the fee for a license to shoot over the whole province should be only double hat of one for a single District and that there should be different licenses for small and big game. the fee for the former being fixed at Rs. 10, and the latter at Rs. 30.

*From the District Magistrate of Shimoga, No. 207—16, dated the 2nd September 1904.*

Submits a report on the working of the Game Regulation in his District for 1903-04.

*From the District Magistrate, Tumkur, No. 150, dated the 31st August 1904.*

States that the shooting classes seem to have become familiar with the provisions of the Regulation: that only 4 cases of shooting without a license have occurred in his District since the introduction of the Regulation; that there is no reason to believe that any surreptitious shooting is prevalent in his District and that it does not appear that any hardship is felt by the restriction regarding a license issued in one District being confined to the same.

*From the District Magistrate of Hassan, No. 266, dated the 10th October 1904.*

States that wide publicity has been given to the Regulation in his District: that neither indiscriminate destruction of game seems to have been indulged in, but that the appointment of Government watchmen or increase in the establishment of the minor Forest officials is in his opinion necessary to prevent abuse of game laws which often occur: and that no hardship seems to have been felt owing to the restriction, regarding the shooting license issued in one District being confined to the place.

*From the same, No 267, dated the 10th October 1904.*

Submits a report on the working of the Game Regulation for 1904.

*From the District Magistrate, Kolar, No. 2062, dated the 10th October 1904.*

States that the provisions of the Regulation do not seem to have been understood by people in his District; that a certain amount of poaching is indulged in by native sportsmen who are generally of the lower classes: that netting, snaring and fishing against the rules are also freely indulged in; that preservation of the Game can only be secured by the executive officers

of Police, Revenue and Forest Departments being made to pay more attention to this branch of their duty ; that patels and Forest guards should be held responsible for surreptitious shooting and breaches of rules in their jurisdiction : that a wide publicity of the rules regarding close season etc., is in his opinion necessary : but that no hardship is experienced by the system of local and provincial licenses.

*From the District Magistrate, Kadur, No. 278, dated the 26th November 1904.*

States that notwithstanding the publicity given to the Regulation and rules thereunder, there is reason to believe that a good deal of ignorance prevails amongst the villagers as to their provisions ; that consequently some unlicensed shooting is carried on in the more remote parts of the Malnad : that each patel may therefore be supplied with a copy of the rules and made responsible to report breaches of the same and submits for consideration, certain suggestions for the better working of the Game laws.

*From the District Magistrate, Mysore, No. 429, dated the 2nd December 1904.*

Submits a report on the working of the Game Regulation for 1903-04, and observes that in his opinion it is necessary to make some exemption in favor of certain classes of people who go hunting on certain important festive occasions.

*From the District Magistrate, Chitaldrug, No. 336, dated the 29th December 1904.*

States that the Game Regulations and rules thereunder have had the desired effect in preserving game from indiscriminate destruction : that no surreptitious shooting seems to have been resorted to in his District and that no hardship seems to be felt by the restriction regarding a shooting license issued in one District not being available in another.

*From the District Magistrate, Bangalore, No. S. 643, dated the 3rd February 1905.*

States that the native shooting classes do not appear to be familiar with the provisions of the Regulation : that a certain amount of surreptitious shooting is carried on by persons holding licenses for guns for self protection and that no complaints have been received of any hardship arising from a license issued in one District not being made available in another.

1. The Mysore Game Regulation having been in force for nearly three years, the Government, with a view to ascertain the effects the operation of the law has had on the preservation of game in general, called upon the abovementioned officers and non-official gentlemen in their order No. 302-11—J., dated the 6th August 1904 to report :—

(1) as to the extent to which the shooting classes have become familiar with the provisions of the Regulation,

(2) as to the extent to which surreptitious shooting, if any, prevailed either during close season or in prohibited areas or without obtaining proper licenses or on improper licenses,

(3) and as to the hardship if any felt by the restriction regarding a license issued in one District being available only for that District,

2. The officers and nonofficial gentlemen have now submitted their replies (Sl.Nos. 12-13) on the various points called for.

Submitted for orders.

T. K. S. S. N.

14-3-05.

3. Some District Magistrates have not furnished information regarding the working of the Regulation, while others have. In this connection, I venture to point out that the direction in para 4 of the order of 6th August 1904, prescribing an annual report, seems to have been passed in ignorance of Government Order No. 2-10—J. M., dated 2nd July 1903, whereby a section regarding the working of the Game and Arms Regulations has already been ordered to be inserted in the Police Reports. This order requires cancellation so far as concerns the former Regulation.

I believe what was wanted was a special report in addition to the Section in the Police Report.
(Intd) C. S.

4. In the accompanying draft, a general review is attempted of the present position as regards game preservation ; measures are indicated for giving further publicity to the law ; provision is made for the employment of watchers out of the net receipts from game licenses ; the distinction between army and game licenses is indicated ; and an addition is proposed to be made to Game Rule 10, so as to permit of a District license being countersigned by another District Magistrate. Mr. Carr's suggestion to have two forms of licenses seems a good one ; and on this point opinions are invited.

5. With these remarks, I submit the draft order for approval.

K. S. CHENDRASEKHARA AIYAR,

18-4-05.

6. The draft seems suitable, special watchmen need be employed only in exceptional cases and on receipt of definite proposals. Distribution of copies of the Regulation and Rules to Toties, Talaries and License-holders does not seem necessary.

C.

21-4-05.

Government may as a preliminary step offer rewards to informants in cases of surreptitious shooting in which conviction is secured. A copy of the Regulation and rules may be posted up at the Chavadi and Police Stations—the copy at the Chavadi would be available to the Patel and Shanbhogue. Very few Patels are literate and many Shanbhogues have more than one village, separate copies to these Village officers seem unnecessary.

C. M

7-5-05.

8. The draft order on the Report on the working of the Game Regulation, may be approved.

P. N. K.

10-5-05.

9. Approved.

K. R. W.

*His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.*

15-5-05.

10. Issue.

P. N. K.

15-5-05.

*Order No. J. 3328—40, dated the 20th May 1905, to the Inspector General of Police, all District Magistrates, the Honorary Secretary, Game and Fish Preservation Association, Col. J. P. Grant, Survey and Settlement Commissioner, the Conservator of Forests, and Captain Traill.*

Reviews the above Reports on the working of the Game and Fish Preservation Regulation, II of 1901 and the Rules thereunder and requests the District Magistrates, the Game and Fish Preservation Association, Colonel Grant and Captain Traill to favor Government with their views on the suggestion of Mr. Carr regarding the issue of two licenses, one for small game such as snipe, duck, hare, etc., and another for big game such as bison, sambhur, etc., the fee for the former being fixed at, say Rs. 10 and for the latter at Rs. 30, for the whole State.

*To the Compiler, Mysore Gazette, No. 3341, dated 20th May 1905*

Notifies the addition of clause (c) to Rule 10 of the Game Rules

*Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore. Legislative May 1905*

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

## FILE NO. 15 OF 1904-05.

*Order No. 302-11—J dated 6th August 1904, to the District Magistrates, the Inspector General of Police and Honorary Secretary, Game and Fish Preservation Association.*

Serial No. 1.

The Mysore Game Regulation has now been in force for nearly three years and Government desire to be informed, as far as possible, regarding the effects the operation of the law has had on the preservation of game in general. Considering that the Regulation has been in operation for the past some years, Government hope that the shooting classes have already become familiar with its provisions.

2. The District Magistrates are also requested to furnish information as to whether any surreptitious shooting prevails in their districts, either during the close seasons, or in prohibited areas or without obtaining proper licenses. Complaints often appear that under cover of licenses obtained for special purposes, indiscriminate shooting of game is indulged in by the license-holders, irrespective of the areas or the class of game, to which the licenses apply, and that there is also much destruction often without even the specious authority of a license. The Government desire the District Magistrates to be good enough to ascertain how far there is any truth in these complaints.

3. It is also desired that information may be furnished as to whether any hardship is felt by the restriction now placed regarding a license issued in one district being available only for that district. If the District Magistrates are of opinion that any hardship is caused, they are requested to make any suggestion they may have on the subject.

4. An annual Report on the working of the Regulation may be sent hereafter, commencing with the official year which has just closed.

*Letter No. 134—J. 11, dated 11th August 1904, from M. S. Narayana Rao, Esq., District Magistrate, Shimoga.*

Serial No. 2.

Adverting to Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, calling for information on certain points in connection with the working of the Game Preservation Regulation, I have the honor to state that no cases of surreptitious shooting have been brought to notice nor is indiscriminate shooting indulged in. No hardship appears also to have been caused by the licenses granted in one district being confined to that district.

*Letter dated Saklespur, August 15th 1904, from the Honorary Secretary, Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Association.*

Serial No. 3.

In reply to your No. 302-11—J. of August 6th, I have the honor to state—

(1) That the Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Regulation is still far from well-known amongst the natives of the State, especially in the Maidan taluks. Many a raiyat when questioned has replied that he has never heard of such a law. Even in the Malnad, many of the residents believe it to be only an invention of the Europeans to keep the shikar for themselves. Small game such as jungle fowl and hares have increased in parts of the Malnad but principally in the neighbourhood of European coffee Estates. Large game has not increased, but this is principally due to the depredations of wild dogs, which having nearly exterminated game, have now taken to killing domestic cattle. The netting of fish with a mesh below the size allowed by the Regulation is frequently reported—as also the dynamiting of rivers. But lack of visible evidence prevents these cases being brought into Court.

(2) Surreptitious shooting is of daily occurrence, there being no one to put a stop to it. Naturally the Police and village officials are not always in the jungle, to see if any one is shooting, and there is no law to prevent a man carrying a gun along a road, provided it is covered with a four-anna license. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining reliable witnesses (most of these cases being brought to the notice of this Association in a round-about manner) and the absence of any visible evidence prevents prosecution.

Neither the fact of it being close season-prohibited area or the absence of a shooting deter the poacher. The total absence of any game watchers renders the chance of being caught so small, and the knowledge that if caught only a *small fine* will be imposed are not likely to act as deterrents. Gangs of men go into District forests, and even reserved forests and camp for three and four days, and shoot everything they come across. The Harbal-

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

Hobli of Manjarabad and the Balur and Kalasa Hoblis of Mudgere Taluk are notoriously bad for this style of poaching. Reports of netting of game frequently reach this Association, principally from the Mysore District. Also of netting of antelope in the Hosdurga Taluk. The impression gained from a perusal of these reports, is that the Game Regulation is practically a dead letter.

100 live jungle fowl and 2,000 fowls' skins were advertised in the *Madras Mail*. These came from Mysore. Yet as far as I know, the offenders were never detected. Bales of skins of spotted deer and sambur are frequently to be seen at Birur and Kadur Railway stations, having come from the Shimoga and Kadur Districts. The netting of partridges and quail still goes on quite openly. Only last year quail were sold in the Saklespur bazaar, yet no one was prosecuted. This shows an evident ignorance of the Regulation by the Police.

Until the Mysore Government appoint a staff of *reliable* game watchers, it cannot be expected that the preservation of game will be successful. The petty officials take no interest in Game Preservation, and if they did, their many other duties prevent them taking active steps to see the Game Laws enforced. Private individuals who often come in contact with offenders are debarred from taking any steps to bring the offenders to justice.

Further, as long as a man is allowed to enter District and reserve Forests under cover of a four-anna gun license, and the excuse that he is after pig and other vermin, so long will attempts at Game Preservation be abortive.

(3) A certain amount of hardship arises from the restriction regarding a shooting license issued in one district not being available in another. In the event of a man residing on the borders of two or more districts, he probably shoots over a portion of each, yet shoots over no larger an area than a person residing well within the boundaries of the district. Yet under the existing rule he has to pay two or more shooting license fees. Therefore this Association would suggest that this restriction be totally removed, and to make up for any decrease there may be realised from fees, that a considerably higher fee be charged to non-residents of the State. Say Rs. 25 per District or Rs. 50 for the whole Province

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*Letter No. 1020—139, dated 18th—19th August 1904, from F. E. C. Carr, Esq., Inspector General of Police in Mysore.*

**Serial No. 4.**

I have the honor to state that I am of opinion that the fees for a license to shoot over the whole Province should be only double the license for one district.

2. I would also suggest that there should be two forms of licenses, one for shooting small game, such as snipe, duck, hares, etc., and another for big game including elephants, tigers, bison, sambur, etc. The fee for the former might be Rs. 10 for the whole Province, and for the latter Rs. 30, and to include the former if required.

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*Letter No. 207—16, dated 2nd September 1904, from M. S. Narayana Rao, Esq., District Magistrate, Shimoga.*

**Serial No. 5.**

Adverting to para 4 of the Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August, I have the honor to submit the Annual Report on the working of the Game Regulation in this district during the year 1903-04.

2. This Regulation has been in force for the past three years and its provisions are being gradually understood by the classes of people interested in sport.

3. During the year under report eleven game licenses were issued, of which seven were to Europeans, who during their tours wished to go on shooting excursions in this district, and the rest were to residents of the district.

Under this Regulation, six cases involving 14 persons were brought to trial during the year under report, of which one case involving 2 persons ended in acquittal, the other cases ended in conviction.

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*Letter No. 150, dated 31st August 1904, from K. Doraswami Iyer, Esq., District Magistrate of Tumkur.*

**Serial No. 6.**

With reference to Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, calling for certain information regarding the operation of the Game Regulation brought into force nearly three years ago, I have the honor to state that the

shooting classes have become familiar with the provisions of the Regulation and the enforcement of its provisions in this district has preserved game in general and the deer kind in particular.

2. Only two cases of shooting without a license have occurred in this district since the introduction of the Regulation. There is no reason to believe that there is any surreptitious shooting prevalent in this district either during the close season or in prohibited areas or without obtaining shooting licenses. There was no instance either of a license obtained for a special purpose being made to cover indiscriminate shooting of game irrespective of the areas or classes of game to which the license applied.

3. It is also ascertained from enquiry that there is no hardship felt by the restriction now placed regarding a license issued in one district being only available in that district.

*Letter No. 266—Secy., dated 10th October 1904, From P. R. W. Wetherall, Esq., District Magistrate, Hassan.*

As per instructions contained in Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, calling for certain information concerning certain alleged abuses of the provisions of the Game and Fish Preservation Regulation, II of 1901, I have the honor to state as follows:— **Serial No. 7**

1. The Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Regulation, II of 1901, came into force in October 1901, *viz.*, six months after the date of passing the same on 8th April 1901, and the Rules framed under the said Regulation were passed on the 11th December 1901, to take effect from the 1st February 1902.

2. Even before the passing of the Regulation, the Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Association was formed in 1900, of which I was a member. Representations were made by this Association to Government from time to time resulting in the passing of the Regulation, and after calling for opinions of this Association, Government framed and passed the rules under the Regulation. By means of Kanarese circulars at the instance of the Association, co-operation of shekdars, shanbhogs and patels was invited in the matter of preventing indiscriminate destruction of game animals, birds and fish.

Further, the Association offered rewards to informants against offenders and employed paid watchmen to patrol localities where offenders against these game laws were likely to be committed. They not only ascertained and gave information of offenders against these laws but against persons who possessed unlicensed guns, and many convictions under the Arms Regulation were also secured against persons living near jungle-grown tracts of Manjarabad and Belur Taluks.

3. Special sanction of Government was obtained in the matter of search for unlicensed guns, the Police Inspector of Manjarabad being specially authorized by Government Notification No. 15535—J. 1334, dated 18th March 1902, to conduct such searches. This resulted in many unlicensed guns being seized and offenders punished under the Arms Regulation, which was another means towards prevention of indiscriminate shooting of game.

4. While Sub-Division Officer at Saklespur, I addressed the Inspector General of Police, enclosing a copy of a Resolution of the Association Committee, which resulted in the issue of the Inspector General's circular No. 4041—P. C. 129, dated 20th January 1903, calling attention of all Police Station House Officers and men to the provisions of the Regulation and Rules and their duties in connection therewith.

5. From the reports of the Assistant Superintendent of Police and Amildars of this district, called for on receipt of Government Proceedings now under reply, it is apparent that the Kanarese copies of the Regulation and Rules received from the Inspector General of Police, and Government Notification No. 9007—56, dated 11th December 1901 (in Kanarese) were forwarded to Police Stations and Hobli shekdars, respectively, for wide publication.

6. Hence it may be seen that much was done to give publicity to these Game Laws and issuing instructions to Police and Revenue authorities concerning the same.

7. Regarding the alleged prevalence of surreptitious shooting either during the close season or in prohibited areas, etc., the Divisional Officers and the Police Assistant Superintendent of this district report that such is not much indulged in by license-holders, and that the latter are aware of the fact that they can shoot only certain kinds of game during particular seasons, and that pursuit of game without a license except in so far as it is absolutely necessary for the protection of their crops from the ravages of such wild animals, is punishable under the Regulation. It is further reported that, since the said Game Regulation was brought into force, game in the Malnad tracts of this district has increased to some extent. This, I think, is an admitted fact and tends to disprove the allegation of indiscriminate destruction of game.

Report on the working of the Game Regulation

8. From the separate Annual Report on the working of the Game and Fish Preservation Regulation and Rules (*vide* letter No. 267—Secy., dated 10th October 1904) it may be seen that action was taken against 24 persons for offences against these game laws, but only 8 of them were convicted. Owing to the extensive jungle-grown areas in which offences against the game laws can be committed, detection is by no means easy, and the general unwillingness of witnesses to give evidence against their neighbours is often the cause of cases breaking down.

9. Now that the Association has become dislocated and no longer employs watchmen to collect and furnish information, the number of cases reported has decreased. Nothing short of appointing Government watchmen or increasing the establishment of minor Forest officials would appear to remedy the difficulty of detection of such cases.

10. Regarding the point whether any hardship is felt by the restriction now placed concerning licenses issued in one district being available only for that district, it is apparent from the reports received from the Divisional Officers, Police Assistant Superintendent and Amildars, that no complaints of such hardships have come to their notice at all, nor have any such complaints come to my notice. Hardship might be imagined if a license-holder lived close to the border dividing two adjoining districts, but such instances would be few. At present I am not in favour of making a five Rupee game license applicable to more than one district, as this would tend to further facility for indiscriminate shooting of game.

*Letter No. 267—Secy., dated 10th October 1904, from P. R. W., Wetherall, Esq., Officiating Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Hassan.*

Serial No. 8.

With reference to instructions conveyed in para 4 of Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, directing the submission of an annual report on the working of the Game and Fish Preservation Regulation and Rules in this district during the official year 1903-04, I have the honor to submit the accompanying statements concerning the same.

1. *Statement No. I.*—41 game licenses were issued during the calendar year 1903 against 38 for the previous year, and 29 from January 1904 up to date of report, and the licenses issued are in force only during the calendar year to which they relate (*vide* Rule 10 of the Rules framed under the Regulation). The apparent decrease of 12 licenses during 1904 does not now admit of explanation as many applications are likely to be received even towards the close of the current calendar year. This statement also contains information regarding the number of game licenses granted during the official years of 1902-03 and 1903-04, from which it may be seen that 35 licenses were issued during 1903-04 as against 41 for the previous year. The majority of applications for these licenses were from the European Coffee Planters of the Manjarabad and Belur Taluks.

2. *Statement No. II.*—During the year 1903-04, 24 persons concerned in six cases were tried for offences under the Rules, punishable under Section 8 of the Regulation, of whom 8 persons concerned in three cases were convicted, and 16 persons concerned in three cases were acquitted.

3. One of the first-mentioned three cases was instituted by the Police of Shimoga District against Mr. Sullivan, District Superintendent of Police, South Canara District, who being a European British subject, the case was referred by the Chief Court of Mysore for disposal by me as Justice of the Peace, and I convicted and fined the said Mr. Sullivan for a contravention of Rules 6, clause (*c*), and 9 punishable under Section 8 of the Regulation.

No. I.—Statement of Game Licenses issued from the Sub-Division Magistrate's Court, Saklespur, and the District Magistrate's Court, Hassan.

| Year. | Licenses issued for shooting in the district excluding State Forests. | Licenses issued for shooting in the district including State Forests. | Provincial licenses. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1902-03 ... ... ... | 41 | ..... | ..... | 41 |
| 1903-04 ... ... ... | 35 | ..... | ..... | 35 |
| Calendar year 1902 ... ... | 38 | ..... | ..... | 38 |
| Do for 1903 ... ... | 41 | ..... | ..... | 41 |
| Do for 1904 ... ... | 29 | ..... | ..... | 29 |

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

No. II. Statement of cases under the Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Regulation tried and disposed of during the year 1903-04 in the District of Hassan.

| Name of District. | Number of offences enquired into or tried during the year. | Number of persons under enquiry or trial during the year. | Number of persons acquitted or discharged. | Number of persons convicted | Number of persons committed. | Number of persons died, escaped or transferred. | Number of persons pending. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Hassan District | 6 | 24 | 16 | 8 | | | |

*Letter No. 2062—201, dated 10th October 1904, from K. P. Puttanna Chettu, Esq., District Magistrate, Kolar District*

Serial No. 9.

With reference to Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, calling for a report on the working of the Mysore Game Regulation in this District since its introduction and the effect the operation of the law has had on the preservation of game in general, I have the honor to state as follows :—

2. The Mysore Game Regulation, II of 1901, was notified in the *Mysore Gazette*, on 4th April 1901, and was extended to this district by Notification No. 9007—Legis. 56, dated 11th December 1901, which also prescribed the rules for the preservation of game to come into force throughout the State from 1st day of February 1902. The Regulation therefore came into force in this district from the 1st February 1902.

3. I regret to state that the provisions of the new Regulation are not at all understood by the people. This may be due to want of sufficient promulgation. Even the Forest, Police, and Revenue officials have not properly understood its provisions.

4. I may state that the European sportsmen never violate the rules either by pursuing prohibited game or shooting out of season, except that they sometimes persistently follow their favourite but legitimate game unmindful of the number of heads killed. Black buck and bison appear to be their favourite game and a restriction as regards the number of heads of a particular species which a license-holder can in one season kill, will, I think, tend to prevent the total destruction of the species in any particular locality

5. The native sportsmen are generally of the lower classes and are mostly professional sellers of game. Their sense of duty to respect the law is overpowered by the inducement to make a living by poaching out of season. During the year 1903-04, seven persons were prosecuted in four cases for selling game out of season, and four of them were sentenced to small fines. The Police, Forest, and other executive officers have not been as vigilant and active in this branch of their work, as could be desired in view of the preservation of game aimed at by the Regulation. Although most of the Assistant Commissioners and all the Amildars report that no surreptitious shooting prevails in their respective jurisdiction, I feel sure that clandestine shooting by the holders of gun-licenses for self-protection and protection of property is prevalent in all places where game is available. Netting, snaring, and fishing against the rules are also freely indulged in

6. The penalty for breach of the game rules fixed in Section 8 of the Regulation, *viz.*, Rs. 100, is sufficient to act as a deterrent to the infringers of the rules. But the object of Government in passing the Regulation, *viz.*, to preserve game in the country, will be achieved only if the executive officers of the Police, Revenue, and especially the Forest Departments, devote more attention to this branch of their duty. A special staff for this work may not be necessary. The patels of villages and the Forest guards and watchers should be held responsible for surreptitious shooting and breaches of the rules in their jurisdiction. A wide publication of the rules regarding "close season" and prohibited game, is also necessary. A small reward may be offered to informants in such cases by way of inducement.

7. No special hardship is experienced by the system of local and Provincial licenses now in force. As occasions may arise in which game actually taken in one district may escape into another district, causing great disappointment to sportsmen holding licenses for a single district only the special privilege of pursuing and killing that particular game in that other

District will be highly esteemed by the shooting classes. I am of opinion that with the above modification, the rules regarding the grant of licenses may stand as they are at present.

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*Letter No. 278, dated Camp Kadur, 26th November 1904, from M. Narain Rão, Esq., District Magistrate, Kadur District.*

Serial No. **10.**

With reference to Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, I have the honor to submit the following report on the working of the Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Regulation, No. II of 1901, up to the end of officia year 1903-04.

2. The Regulation was passed into law on the 8th day of April 1901, and according to clause (3) of Section 1, came into effect from October 1901. Rules under the Regulation were published in Notification No. 9007—Legis. 56, dated 11th December 1901, and came into force from 1st February 1902.

3. The accompanying statement shows that from the commencement up to the close of June 1904, 177 shooting licenses were issued under the Regulation as follows :—

87 in 1902, 47 in 1903, 43 during the first six months of 1904.

The amount of fees collected was Rs. 1,085.

Of the 43 licenses granted during the current year, 40 were restricted to th Forests in the district, while the remaining three applied to the whole Province. C licensees, only six were natives and the rest Europeans.

4. The number of prosecutions for offences against the Regulation was 23. C persons concerned, 24 were acquitted and 43 convicted. One case was pending tri 30th June 1904.

5. The rules have been in operation for nearly two and a half years. Though a ..... number of Kannada copies of the Rules was received at the time of their publication, all the Amildars were directed to give wide publicity to them in all the villages within their jurisdiction. In November 1902, the opportunity of the renewal and issue of licenses for the possession of guns under the Arms Regulation for the year 1903, was taken to impress on all persons in possession of guns that the licenses so issued did not authorize them to shoot animals and birds indiscriminately and that such of them as wished to shoot should apply for licenses under the Game and Fish Preservation Regulation.

6. In March 1903, some Kannada copies of the Rules were received from the Inspector General of Police and distributed to Amildars in the Police Department for the information of Police officials and village patels.

7. In May 1903, the attention of the public was specially called to the provisions of the Regulation and the Rules thereunder, and the patels were strictly held responsible for their proper enforcement in their villages.

8. Although the Regulation and the Rules were published, as above, their object and scope were not properly understood by the villagers generally. It was thought that the Regulation was an absolute prohibition against shooting without exception and doubts prevailed as to whether a license under the Regulation was required to shoot and destroy pigs and other wild animals which did damage to standing crops. During the Jamabandi season of 1903, opportunity was taken to explain the object of the Regulation and the Rules to the villagers assembled.

9. Despite all these measures there is reason to suspect that a good deal of ignorance prevails as to the provisions of the Regulation, and that some unlicensed shooting is carried on in the more remote parts of the malnad. With a view to remove all doubts, however, in the matter, it is suggested that each patel be supplied with a Kannada copy of the Rules under the Regulation and that he be held responsible for reporting breaches thereof occurring within the limits of his village. This responsibility should be legalized and failure to report should be made penal departmentally.

10. Cases of unlicensed shooting are few and far between. The Police are vigilant in the matter of a strict enforcement of the game law and the European residents of the district have always readily furnished information of breaches thereof and have taken a keen interest in prosecutions under the Regulation.

11. Great care is exercised in the issue of license under the Rules. As a rule, licenses are refused to persons who make a living by catching birds and fish and shooting game. The issue of licenses to such persons must necessarily result in the wholesale destruction of game and fish and it is desirable to discourage such unsportsmanlike and wanton destruction. To

respectable gentlemen who are lovers of sports, who understand the object of the rules framed by Government and who are ready to bring to light cases of infringement thereof, licenses are readily granted. This accounts for the small number, namely, six, of licenses granted to natives in the current year.

12. For the better working of the game laws, the following suggestions are submitted for consideration :—

(*a*) Every serviceable gun in the country, whether in the possession of persons exempted from the operations of the Arms Regulation or not, should be registered without charge. If a gun has not the maker's number on it, it should be marked with the Government Register number. A Register of guns should be maintained at each Police Station and an extract therefrom furnished to each patel, who will report cases in which licenses have not been taken out according to the Regulation. A register of guns in respect of which licenses have been issued is at present maintained at the head stations, but if the patel of each village had the means of knowing how many guns there are within his jurisdiction and how many of them have been licensed or exempted from license, it will be easy for him to find out cases of illicit shooting.

(*b*) Similarly the patel should be held strictly responsible under penalty of fine for reporting breaches of the provisions of the game law within the limits of his village.

(*c*) The possession of nets for capturing birds and animals should be prohibited. At present the mere possession of nets is not punishable, and it is difficult to prove actual capture.

(*d*) Provision may be made in Section 8 of the Game Regulation for the more severe punishment of persons who are convicted for a second time.

13. The term of a license under the Game Regulation is at present conterminous with the calendar year. As the shooting season usually begins after October, the license virtually covers only a period of two months, *i. e.*, November and December. To prevent hardship by a person having to pay for two licenses in a shooting season, the term may extend from 1st July to 30th June following.

14. At present, a license issued in one district is of no use in another. It will be hard to require a travelling sportsman who usually visits more districts than one to pay for a license in each district. It may therefore be ruled that in such cases, the countersignature of the District Magistrate of the district in which the licensee wishes to shoot is sufficient provided the term of the license has not expired.

15. There is loud complaint on the part of raiyats that Section 12 of the Regulation works hardship. The section runs as follows :—

> "Nothing in the Regulation shall be deemed to prevent any owner or occupier of land from killing, capturing or pursuing game doing damage to any crop growing thereon so far as the same may be necessary for the protection of the crop."

It is argued that the mere firing of a shot or two on the land is not sufficient to scare away animals doing damage to the crops on it and that it is necessary to pursue and kill it. On the other hand, it is said that this section enables the raiyats to enter forests on the pretext of pursuing animals for the purpose of protecting their crops and killing animals in them with impunity. It is accordingly suggested that a man should be prohibited from using a gun on other than his own land without a shooting license. Such a prohibition is likely to cause great hardship and I would not advocate it, but would restrict the pursuit to the forests of the village in which the land is situated. Further pursuit is not, in my opinion, necessary for the protection of crop.

16. As regards the employment of watchers to prevent poaching, I should consider it to be unnecessary. The Game Preserves and the State Forests have their own staff of Forest subordinates to watch them. It is only in the District Forests that watching by special establishment may be required, but the area of these District Forests is so extensive as to render it impossible to protect them by means of salaried watchers without a large expenditure of money which is not commensurate with the advantages to be gained. Besides this, the honesty of these watchers is not generally beyond question. It will therefore be sufficient if the patel be required to report all cases of breaches of the game laws within the limits of his village

17. It is the custom amongst Bedars and others to go out on hunting excursions once a year. For such occasions, special licenses may be issued, limiting the period of the currency of the license to 15 days, the fee therefor being fixed at a nominal rate.

Statement showing the number of licenses issued under the Mysore Game and Fish Preservation Regulation, and the number of cases prosecuted in the Kadur District during the years 1902, 1903 and 1904.

| Years | Number of licenses issued | | | | | | | | Number. | Name of Court. | 1902 | | | | | 1903 | | | | | 1904 (up to 30th June) | | | | | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | For the district exclusive of State Forest | | For the district inclusive of State Forest | | For the whole Province | | Total | | | | Brought to trial | | Acquitted or discharged | Convicted | Pending | Brought to trial | | Acquitted or discharged | Convicted | Pending | Brought to trial | | Acquitted or discharged | Convicted | Pending | |
| | No. | Amount of Fee | No. | Amount of Fee | No. | Amount of Fee | No. | Amount of Fee | | | Cases | Persons | | | | Cases | Persons | | | | Cases | Persons | | | | |
| | | Rs. | | Rs. | | Rs. | | Rs. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | E. 45 N. 37 | | | | E. 5 N. 0 | | | | 1 | District Magistrate's Court, Kadur. | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| | | | | | | | | | 2 | First Assistant Commissioner Magistrate's Court. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | |
| 1902 | 82 | 410 | ... | ..... | 5 | 125 | 87 | 535 | 3 | Second Assistant do ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | |
| | | | | | | | | | 4 | Amildar Magistrate's Court, Kadur. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 12 | 3 | 9 | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 2 | .. | |
| | E. 36 N. 8 | | | | | | | | 5 | Do Tarikere ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | ... | .. | |
| 1903 | 44 | 220 | E. 2 | 30 | E. 1 | 25 | 47 | 275 | 6 | Do Chikmagalur. | 1 | 7 | ... | 7 | ... | 4 | 9 | 3 | 6 | ... | 2 | 2 | .. | 2 | .. | |
| | | | | | | | | | 7 | Do Mudgere ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 12 | 3 | 9 | ... | 2 | 13 | 12 | 1 | ... | |
| | E 31 N. 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1904 up to 30th June. | 40 | 200 | ... | ..... | E. 3 | 75 | 43 | 275 | 8 | Deputy Amildar Magistrate's Court, Sringeri. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 2 | ... | |
| | 166 | 830 | 2 | 30 | 9 | 225 | 177 | 1,085 | | Total .. | 4 | 12 | 1 | 11 or 91·66 | ... | 12 | 36 | 11 | 25 or 69·44 | ... | 7 | 20 | 12 | 7 or 35·00 | 1 | |
| Total ... | E. 115 N. 51 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

*Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Legislative, May 1905.*

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

*Letter No. 429, dated 2nd—6th December 1904, from M. Kantha Raj Urs, Esq.*, B.A., *District Magistrate, Mysore.*

Serial No. 11.

Adverting to Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, directing that an annual report on the working of the Mysore Game Regulation may be submitted commencing with the year 1903-04, I have the honor to submit the following report:—

The number of licenses issued during the official year was 51, of which 44 were for District Forests only, and the rest were for State Forests also, excluding the preserved areas, only one license was issued which was available for the State Forests of the whole Province. The total fees collected amounted to Rs. 335

3. Of the licensees, 27 were Europeans, 11 Hindus, 7 Mahomedans, 2 Native Christians, 3 Eurasians and one Parsi. Thus Europeans and Eurasians predominate. Most of these are from outside the Province who came here temporarily on shooting excursions. After the constitution of the Game Preserves, some of the applications had to be refused as the applicants wanted permission to shoot in the preserved areas.

4. Going to the other matters referred to in the Proceedings, I have herein enclosed an extract of the reports received from the several Amildars and Assistant Commissioners in the District for perusal.

5. It is still premature to say whether the operation of the law has had the desired effect in the preservation of game. The rules have been widely published, and the reports say that people are more or less familiar with them.

6. Only one surreptitious case of shooting was reported, but I believe there should be more I had my own doubts whether holders of licenses under the Arms Regulation were not also in the habit of pursuing game, and so, issued a circular to the effect that the Police should watch and report if any of the license-holders under the Arms Regulation do kill game. But the majority of the reports say that no such unauthorised shooting takes place.

7. I do not think any hardship is caused by restricting the operation of a license obtained for a district, to that district only. Such hardship, if any, can be obviated by the levy of a further fee of Rs. 5 and making it available for more than one district after countersignature by the Secretary to Government, Revenue and General Departments.

8. The difficulty noticed by the Amildar of Chamrajnagar with regard to the custom observed by certain classes of people, *viz.*, of going a-hunting during certain important festivals, requires consideration. It is indeed a great hardship to prohibit the observance of a time-honored custom. An exception may be granted in favour of such communities throughout the Province, on the occasion of particular festivals, and the local Magistrates may be authorized to grant free licenses subject to certain conditions.

## Extracts of reports received from Amildars and Assistant Commissioners on the working of the Game Regulation in the Mysore District during the year 1903-04.

| Name of officer. | Effects of operations of the law on the preservation of game, familiarity with its provisions. | Surreptitious shooting: pursuit of game without licenses or with licenses obtained for special purposes. | Hardship, if any, of a license being available only for one district, suggestions for its remedy. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amildar of Malvalli | ..... | No surreptitious shooting was reported. | ..... | Game is scarce in the taluk. |
| Do of Nagmangala | ..... | Do | ..... | |
| Do of Mandya | ..... | Do | ..... | There are no forests in the taluk. |
| City Magistrate | ..... | ..... | No hardship is experienced. Fishermen complain that the restrictions have interfered with their occupation and living | |

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

## Extracts of reports received from Amildars etc.,—*concld.*

| Name of officer. | Effects of operations of the law on the preservation of game, familiarity with its provisions. | Surreptitious shooting pursuit of game without licenses or with licenses obtained for special purposes. | Hardship, if any of a license being available only for one district, suggestions for its remedy. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amildar of Mysore Taluk. | People are familiar with its provisions. | No such shooting is reported. | Torayer and other classes who live by hunting feel some difficulty and complain bitterly. | Raiyats whose crops are damaged by deer, hare and wild pigs should be shown some concession as it is not possible to kill them in their fields. |
| Assistant Commissioner, Hunsur Division. | Do | There was one case of such shooting. | The hardship, if any, may be remedied by the countersignature of the license. | ..... |
| Amildar of Nanjangud. | ..... | Do | ..... | ..... |
| Amildar of Yedatore. | ..... | Such shooting is often noticed. It is not possible to keep watch. The only remedy is that the applicants for gun-licenses should be insisted upon having game licenses as well. | There need be no hardship. The remedy is to issue separate licenses which could be available for the whole Province. | ..... |
| Amildar of T.-Narsipur. | There is not much of game. People are familiar. | No such shooting, strict orders have been issued. | Special licenses should be issued for the whole Province. | ..... |
| Do of Seringapatam. | People have understood the provisions. | No such shooting. | No hardship experienced. | ..... |
| Do of Hunsur. | The rules have been widely published | Do | No complaints. | ..... |
| Assistant Commissioner, Krishnarajpete Division. | There is not much of game. Fishing is indulged in. | Do | Do | ..... |
| Amildar of Heggaddevankote. | Rules are well understood. | There was one such case. Large number of licenses under the Arms Regulation are issued in this taluk. | It would be convenient if a license issued for one district is made available in another district. | Local Magistrates should be empowered to try cases under game laws. |
| Do of Gundlupet. | People are familiar. | No such shooting. | No hardship. | ..... |
| Treasury Assistant Commissioner Magistrate. | Do | Do | License issued for one district should not be made available for another district. | ..... |
| Police Superintendent French Rocks. | In his experience of Kadur District people have not understood the difference between game and gun licenses. | Do | | ..... |
| Amildar of Chamrajnagar. | People are familiar. | No such shooting. Fishermen are put to some difficulty. | Owners of such licenses may be allowed to shoot in another district after permission from the district Magistrate concerned. | Torayers and other classes have as per mamul to go for hunting during Maharnavami and such other festivals as a religious observance and for pleasure. It is desirable that local Magistrates should be allowed to grant licenses for such purposes on such occasions. A definite ruling may be passed on this subject. |
| Amildar of Yelandur. | People have understood the rules. | No such shooting. | Such hardship can only be felt by Europeans as they are the persons who go to more than one district. | ..... |

*Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysor Legislative, May 1905.*

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

*Letter No. 336. dated Camp Holalkere, 29th—31st December 1904, from H. Ramanujaiengar Esq., District Magistrate, Chitaldrug.*

Adverting to Government Proceedings No. 302-11—J., dated the 6th August last, calling for a report regarding the effects the operation of the game law has had on the preservation of game in general, I have the honor to state that the Game Regulation and the Rules framed thereunder have had the desired effect in preserving game from indiscriminate destruction. Serial No. 12

2. As far as my knowledge of the district goes, it does not appear that any surreptitious shooting has been resorted to. Only two cases of infringement of the game laws were reported, in one of which Mr. Slater, the Assistant Geologist, was reported to have shot a peafowl in a village of the Davangere Taluk, and in the other a blacksmith by profession residing in Chitaldrug was reported to have shot a cuckoo which had perched on a tree. In both of these cases, the offenders were prosecuted and convicted under the Game Law. In the former case, the offender who is a British-born subject was exempt from the operation of the Arms Regulation, while in the latter, the accused had possessed a license for a gun for self-protection.

There were no instances in the district in which any license-holder had indulged in indiscriminate shooting of game irrespective of the areas or the class of game to which the licenses applied

4. I beg to add that the restriction now placed regarding a license issued in one district being available only for that district, does not operate as a hardship, as under the provision contained in para 10 of the Game Rules, a license can be made applicable for the whole Province when countersigned by the Inspector-General of Police.

*Letter No. S. 643, dated Bangalore, 3rd February 1905, from D. Devaraj Urs, Esq., District Magistrate, Bangalore.*

Adverting to Government Proceedings No. 30-2-11—J., dated 6th August 1904, regarding the effects of the introduction of the game law, I have the honor to state that though the Regulation has been in operation for the last three years, I do not think that the native shooting classes have become familiar with the provisions of the Regulation. For it is clear from the statistics shown in the margin that it is only the European shikaris who generally apply for the shooting licenses. Again, the Kanarese copies of the Regulation are just being sent to the Amildars for giving wide publicity in the matter. Serial No. 13.

| Years. | Number of Europeans and Eurasians. | Natives. | Total. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1902 | 30 | 1 | 31 |
| 1903 | 34 | ... | 34 |
| 1904 | 28 | 3 | 31 |

2. The Assistant Commissioners in charge of taluks and Amildars report that no instance of surreptitious shooting of any kind has come to their notice. But I fear that surreptitious shooting is carried on by persons who hold license to possess guns for self-protection. These, I believe, shoot small game unconscious that they are prohibited from doing so. Instructions are now issued to watch and report any infringement of law in this respect.

3. No complaints are received in the matter of hardship arising from the license granted to one district being inoperative in another. I do not think that the restriction causes any hardship.

*To the Inspector General of Police, all District Magistrates, the Honorary Secretary, Game and Fish Preservation Association, Colonel Grant, Survey and Settlement Commissioner, the Conservator of Forests and Captain Traill, Government Proceedings No. J. 3328-40—Legis. 15-14, dated 20th May 1905.*

In the order first read, District Magistrates were asked to submit a report regarding the effect the operation of the Game Regulation and Rules has had on the preservation of game in general ; and in particular as to whether the shooting classes have become familiar with the provisions of the law, whether surreptitious or indiscriminate shooting of game is practised ; and whether any hardship is felt by the restriction of the scope of a license to the district in which it is issued. They were also asked to submit in future an annual report on the working of the Regulation. Serial No. 14.

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

2. The replies of some District Magistrates embody brief accounts of the working of the Regulation during the year 1903-04 ; while the information submitted by others is not sufficient to permit of a comprehensive review being made. To obviate such defects, future reports of the kind should be sent, in the first instance, to the Inspector General of Police, who will submit them to Government with a general resume for the whole State. Government Order No. 2-10—J., dated the 2nd July 1903, is hereby cancelled, so far as it relates to the working of the game law. With these remarks Government proceed to make a general survey of the position with respect to game preservation.

3. Regulation, II of 1901 was passed on the 8th April 1901 ; and on the 11th December 1901, after inviting and considering the views of the local officers and others interested in the preservation of game, the Government framed a set of rules which had, for their object, among other things, the prohibition of the killing of certain animals and birds absolutely, and of certain others for a term of years ; the prohibition of certain unsportsmanlike acts with respect to fishing, the prescription of close seasons for the different descriptions of game ; and the regulation of the shooting at and killing of game by the issue of licenses. These rules came into force in all parts of the State on the 1st February 1902, so that they have now been in operation for a period of about three years.

4. While a certain measure of success has attended the efforts to give publicity to the provisions of the game law, it cannot be denied that much more remains to be done in the same direction. Sportsmen as well as those to whom the destruction of wild animals is a means of livelihood, have no doubt by this time become more or less familiar with the provisions in question. This can hardly be said of the other classes of the community who only indulge occasionally in the pursuit of game ; and the question is how far it is feasible to give further publicity to the rules among these classes. Government direct that a copy of the Game Regulation and Rules in Kannada be posted up at each Police Station and chavadi, and also furnished to each literate patel. The Station House Officer will also instruct the patels in the provisions of this Regulation, as often as he may have opportunities therefor. This, it is hoped, will further the end in view materially.

5. The information furnished with reference to the prevalence of unauthorized shooting of game is somewhat conflicting. The District Magistrates of Shimoga, Tumkur, Hassan, Mysore and Chitaldrug state that there is hardly any instance of surreptitious shooting brought to notice in their districts ; the District Magistrate of Mysore, however, believing at the same time that there may be some cases not reported. In Kadur, again, it is reported that cases of unlicensed shooting are few and far between, and that they occur in the more remote parts of the Malnad. The District Magistrate of Bangalore states it as his belief that surreptitious shooting is carried on by persons who hold guns for self-protection. The District Magistrate of Kolar affirms that unlawful acts on the part of native sportsmen are common, and that clandestine shooting by the holders of gun licenses is prevalent in places where game is available. The representation made by the Honorary Secretary of the Game and Fish Preservation Association at Saklespur, is even more decisively to the same effect. He asserts that surreptitious shooting is of daily occurrence, there being no one to put a stop to it, and that the difficulties of obtaining reliable witnesses and the absence of visible evidence prevent prosecution. Though it is impossible to accept unqalified assertions of the general evasion of the game laws, such as are sometimes made on the strength of occasional single instances, yet it by no means follows on the other hand merely because reported cases are few, that the actual instances of unauthorized destruction of game may not be many more. This must be particularly so in localities where, owing to local arrangements for watch and prevention being defective, the conditions are favourable to the unauthorized pursuit of game. The effective prevention of all unlawful, forms of destruction is by no means easy, the area over which protection is required being so immense. The village and Forest officials will be required to give to this important branch of work their most assiduous attention. Where, in exceptional cases, such attention is deemed insufficient to secure the object in view, Government would be glad to entertain proposals for the employment of special watchman as a temporary measure, to be paid far from the realizations from license fees. A small sum of money may also be set apart for rewards to informants in cases of surreptitious shooting in which conviction is secured.

6. The holders of licenses under the Arms Regulation must be distinctly made to understand by means of an addition to the conditions endorsed thereon, that these licenses do not authorize the employment of guns for the shooting of game, but merely cover the possession of the arms and their use for self-protection, display, or other purposes expressly indicated in the license. The point will be made clear in the revised forms of arms licenses under preparation. Meanwhile, District Magistrates should exercise very great discrimination in the issue of licenses, and decline to issue new or renew old ones in favor of persons against whom reasonable suspicion exists of their having misused or being likely to misuse the permission to hold fire-arms.

Report on the working of the Game Regulation.

7. Most District Magistrates are of opinion that the restriction of the operation of an ordinary license to the limits of the district in which it is issued is not productive of real hardship, inasmuch as the currency thereof may be extended to other districts and District Forests or to State Sorests and specially protected tracts, on countersignature by the Inspector General of Police or the Conservator of Forests. The District Magistrate of Kadur suggests that in the case of travelling sportsmen who visit more districts than one, the countersignature of the Magistrate of the District in which the licensee wishes to shoot may be made sufficient to authorize the pursuit of game therein, provided that the term of the license has not expired. This is a reasonable suggestion; and effect will be given to it by the addition of the following clause to Game Rule No. 10:

> "(c) to any district or districts other than the one for which the license was granted, on payment of a fee of rupees five for each additional district, in addition to the initial fee of five rupees, and on countersignature by the District Magistrate or Magistrates concerned."

8. The Government regret their inability to accede to the recommendation of the Game and Fish Preservation Association and of the Inspector General of Police for a reduction of the fee for a license operating over more than one district, as the scale of fees fixed under the existing rules is already very moderate. Nor do they see any reason to make a distinction, as proposed by the former, between local sportsmen and non-residents. There is, however, something to be said in favor of Mr. Carr's suggestion that there should be two forms of licenses, one for shooting small game, such as snipe, duck, hares, etc., and another for big game such as bison, sambhur, etc., the fee for the former being, say, Rs. 10, and for the latter Rs. 30, for the whole State. Before passing final orders on the above suggestion, Government will be glad to be favored with the views of District Magistrates, of the Game and Fish Preservation Association, of Colonel Grant and of Captain Traill.

*Notification No. J. 3341—Legis. 15-15, dated 20th May 1905, to the Compiler, Mysore Gazette.*

Serial No. 15.

The Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, are pleased to direct the addition of the following clause to Rule 10 of the Game Rules issued under Notification No. 9007—Legis. 56, dated the 11th December 1901, as amended by Notification No. 1677—J. 153, dated the 28th July 1902:—

> "(c) to any district or districts other than the one for which the license was granted, —on payment of a fee of Rs. 5 for each additional district, in addition to the initial fee of Rs. 5, and on countersignature by the District Magistrate or Magistrates concerned."